



NORTH CAROLINA DOMESTIC VIOLENCE COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES February 28, 2014

Archdale Building (Ground Floor Conference Room)
512 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh NC 27699

Commission Members	Commission Members	Guest
Marisol D. Barr	Dana Mangum	Chief Marty Sumner
Gretchen Banks	Nathaniel Parker	Trishonda Roberson
The Honorable Susan Bray	Kate Stahlman	
Bill Bryan	Mary Catherine Stevens	Others Present/ Staff CFW
Charles Campbell, II	Pamela T. Thompson	Gale McKoy Wilkins
Cathy Cloninger	Dudley Watts	Mary Williams-Stover
David Elliot	Alisa Huffman (representing David Huffman)	Kathleen Balogh
The Honorable Lorrin Freeman		Bernetta Thigpen
Monika Johnson Hostler		Jackie Jordan
Phil Kline		Daphne Pinto
The Honorable Jennifer Knox		Patricia Vaughn
Dr. Rebecca Macy		Gwen Moragne

Chairman Phil Kline called the meeting to order at 10:04 a.m. He charged the Commission Members to declare any conflict of interest, or appearance of conflict of interest, that may exist for agenda items being considered by the Commission, as mandated by the State Ethics Act. None were noted.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: The minutes from the Domestic Violence Commission meeting held on December 13, 2013 were presented. A motion to approve the minutes was made by Commissioner Charles Campbell and seconded by Commissioner Pamela Thompson. Motion carried.

III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Division Report: Mrs. Gale McKoy Wilkins, Executive Director, NC Council for Women, presented the division report. She noted the following key activities:

- Mrs. Tara Minter, Research Associate for the Council for Women (CFW), is representing our Division in the Eastern Region. She is attending the Hopeline's Annual Legislative Breakfast meeting on March 10, 2014, and will provide updates on the CFW Status for Women Report for the community.
- Human Trafficking Education Event is scheduled for March 31, 2014 at the Hope Community Church on Buck Jones Road. Mrs. Wilkins announced that Mr. Kenneth Morris Jr. will be the key note speaker at this event. He is the great-great grandson of Fredrick Douglass and the great-great grandson of Booker T. Washington. The invitation is extended to 1,200 students (Grades 7-10) throughout the state of North Carolina. This event will partner with the Governor's Crime Commission and the Governor's Community Constituent Affairs. Registration will begin on Monday, March 3, 2014. The afternoon workshop session will run from 3:30 until 6:30 p.m. The presenters from across the state and the country will discuss human trafficking in the United States.
- Family Violence Prevention and Service Agreement (FVPSA) grant from Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). It was noted that the grant for \$2.2 M will be transferred to the Division of CFW. Mrs. Wilkins read an excerpt as follows *"The primary purpose of this grant is federal funding stream; it is dedicated to support of the emergency shelters, as well as support and service for victims of domestic violence and their dependents."* Mrs. Wilkins explained the breakdown as follows: 70% of the funding will go towards shelters, 25% of the funding will go towards the program itself, and 5% of the funding will go towards administrative costs. It was noted that DHHS will handle the program until September 2014.
- Deadline for the FVPSA grant application is set for March 15, 2014.
- Women's Veteran Summit and Expo will be held at the National Guard Headquarters on April 17, 2014, Council for Women is a program partner.
- Grant Applications are currently being accepted online at the NC Council for Women website. Presently there are 239 grant programs at \$7.7 M all over the state of North Carolina. The deadline for these applications is April 15, 2014.
- Our First Lady, Ann McCrory, is serving on this Commission. She is interested in issues on sexual assault and domestic violence in the state of North Carolina. It was noted that an invitation will be extended to Governor Pat McCrory and Deputy Secretary Bill Bryan to attend the Human Trafficking event on March 31, 2014.
- Mrs. Wilkins concluded her presentation by informing the Commission of the success of the Go Red Event held on February 7, 2014. This event focused on how Women's heart disease impacts the lives of Women. She indicated that heart disease is the number one killer of women. Mrs. Wilkins noted that the Council for Women is the state's leading agency on key issues impacting the lives of women.
- A new Fitness Training will begin on March 17, 2014. A personal trainer will conduct walking programs. The program will take place on Monday and Wednesday at noon, and Tuesday and Thursday at 4:30 p.m.

IV. DOMESTIC VIOLENCE OFFENDER FOCUSED PROGRAM: Chief Marty Sumner of the High Point Police Department presented this item. A handout was presented.

The following was discussed:

- The High Point program for domestic violence was developed five years ago. This program was implemented fully for the past two years.
- Gang members and drug related offenders are being exposed through this program.
- A chart showing activities from 2004 through 2013 was presented.
- It was noted that the High Point Police Department receives more than 5000 calls per year. The duration of each call is more than twenty six minutes.
- Homicide victims were primarily from low income backgrounds.
- The goal is to protect women from abuse.
- The average DV offender at High Point had ten other related charges; they included both domestic and non domestic offences from trespassing to drug usage. It was noted that 93% were unemployed; 86% were of a minority status.
- Logic models and criteria levels were discussed.
- Sample letters were provided and referred to from the handout.
- "D list" letters regarding "Offenders Focused Domestic Violence Initiative" and "Notice to Victims" were discussed.
- Next steps were discussed as follows: Face to face notification to "B list" offenders; Delivering letters to "D list" offenders; Prosecuting "A list" offenders; Notifications to "C list" offenders; Review local offender data for previous year.
- It was noted that the victim receives a letter from the officer while on the call describing the initiative, the service provider (Family Service of the Piedmont) receives a referral, and the offender receives an explanation of the deterrent message.
- Domestic violence offender behavior can be changed; Changing offender behavior will decrease victim injuries & deaths, and increase victim services
- In conclusion, Chief Sumner announced the following:
 - High Point Police Department will be receiving a COPS grant for the next two years from the Department of Justice. He noted that the program will be implemented at the new site in Lexington, NC.
 - High Point Center for Children and Families slated to open March 2, 2014. The center will be provided with victim advocate, civil attorney for the victim, prosecutor dedicated to DV cases, and child trauma services. The building is within city limits.

Questions and Concerns from Commission Members:

- Commission members sought clarification on the progression report of the offenders. Chief Sumner informed the Commission that the supervised probation with the officers last an hour.
- Clarifications on community members were requested. Chief Sumner identified community members as "High Point Community against Violence". The group consists of ministers, health care providers, educationist, city leaders, grass root people, and previous victims. He expressed that the domestic violence information was shared with the community, removing secrecy and focus on the victim.

- Questions were asked about the rehabilitation programs. It was noted that the community does help program participants reintegrate into society, by helping them secure education, housing, transportation, and employment.
- Questions were asked on sharing information with other counties. It was noted that the High Point Police Department have recently started sharing information with other counties (after a two year study on the program).
- Questions were asked regarding sharing a watch list with other counties. It was noted that the High Point Police Department does share information with other jurisdiction. The offenders are flagged in multiple counties.
- It was noted that the Victim Advocate/ Family Services conducts the full assessment process and safety plan. Chief Sumner provided the following link to a quick test "Risk assessment.org questionnaire" which consists of five basic questions.
- It was indicated that the entire Police Department was trained with the domestic violence offender focused program, at no additional expense.
- Commission members thanked Chief Marty Sumner for his presentation.

The PowerPoint presentation for this item is attached and is an official part of the minutes.

Ms. Gale McKoy Wilkins acknowledged the Deputy Secretary, Bill Bryan, of the Department of Administration. Mr. Bryan expressed that he enjoyed the valuable information provided by Chief Marty Sumner. He thanked Chief Sumner for his presentation and acknowledged the great work at the High Point Police Department.

Chairman Kline announced a short recess. The meeting reconvened at 12:00 pm.

V. SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES:

Education & Training Committee: Commissioner Charles Campbell II, Sub-Committee Chair presented this item. The following was discussed:

- He noted that the first meeting was cancelled due to the inclement weather. Commissioner Campbell informed the Council that the Committee will try to meet monthly via conference call before the next scheduled DV Commission meeting.
- Commissioner Campbell expressed that Dr. Mary Wyer, NC State University has put together a group and is looking into funding the training program "First Responder Training Protocol". The training will include the level and type "what kind of training the first responder will need?"
- Pilot locations have been identified. The first one is scheduled in Southern Pines, NC. They will interview first responders "What kind of training will the first responders respond too best? What will help the first responders learn about domestic violence and how to respond to it?"
- What training environment is best for each level?
- Research will be conducted to assess the effectiveness of the program.

- Commissioner Campbell informed the Committee that Ms. Stephanie Satkowiak, DV Specialist, Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) is in contact with the NC State University. He noted that she was unable to attend the meeting.
- In-Service training for law enforcement is set for 2015. The topics have been submitted for the Domestic Violence Block of Instruction. The Committee has approved the topic and is currently in the process of approving the objectives for the training. Commissioner Campbell indicated that Ms. Jennifer Fischer, Instruction Coordinator is the contact person.

Victim Services Committee: Commissioner Rebecca Macy, Sub-Committee Chair presented this item. The following was discussed:

- It was indicated that Commissioner Macy contacted members of the Committee regarding the critical issues.
- The Committee will look into the objectives and will create a meeting schedule via conference calls.

Batterer Intervention Committee: Ms. Kathleen Balogh, NC Council for Women Western Region Director and Batterer Intervention Program Manager presented the following information on behalf of Commissioner Jo Liles, Sub-Committee Chair.

- It was noted that the Committee will meet in March to review two new applications for batterer intervention programs.
- Offenders of domestic violence go to these programs ordered by the courts (criminal or civil). These batterer intervention programs (BIP) are twenty six weeks long. Ms. Balogh pointed out that the programs were not a mental health, counseling or treatment programs, but instead a re-education program.
- She indicated that BIP's do not receive funds from the state. The agencies have to submit an application that is reviewed by a Review Committee.
- The Review Committee meets twice a year to approve new applications, April and October. All currently approved programs go through a yearly recertification process. Agencies provide updates on their program, staff, and a new memorandum of understanding (MOU) with the victim service provider in their county. They also provide documentation of continued education hours.
- Out of 100 counties in North Carolina, 72 NC counties have access to a batterer intervention program within their county borders.
- All judicial districts have access to a Batterer Intervention Program (BIP).
- 6,963 clients were served through the BIP. 4,586 were Criminal Court referrals. Other referrals come from Civil Courts and Department of Social Services.
- 57% of participants have completed the program after enrollment.
- 49% of participants were terminated from the program during this time period, due to excessive absences. Ms. Balogh pointed out that participants are only allowed three absences out of a twenty six week program.

The handout is attached and is an official part of the minutes.

Legal and Legislative Committee: Ms. Gale Wilkins informed the Council that Commissioner Alex Nicely had to attend Court and was unable to attend the meeting. She noted that the updates will be discussed during the breakout session.

Lunch break, meeting reconvened at 1:00 p.m.

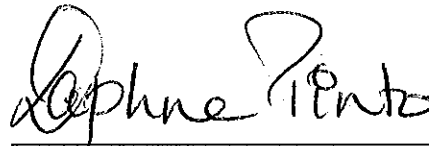
VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS: Chairman Kline asked if there were any questions or comments not included on the agenda.

Commissioner Pamela Thompson announced the Family Justice Center in Burlington, where the Chief District Court Judge Jim Roberson speaks to victims via webcam. Alamance County became the first in the state to implement an electronic protective order system. The webcam hearings add privacy for the victims. It keeps families in abusive situations safer.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: With there being no further business, Chairman Kline adjourned the meeting at 1:05 p.m. The next Domestic Violence meeting is scheduled for May 16, 2014 and will take place at the Archdale Building, located on 512 North Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC 27699.

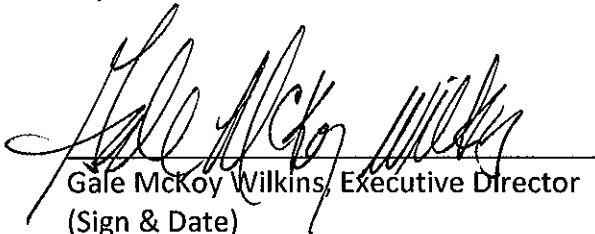


Gale McKoy Wilkins, Executive Director
Division of Council for Women, Raleigh, N.C.
(Sign & Date)

 5-16-14

Daphne Pinto, Recording Secretary
(Sign & Date)

These minutes were approved by the North Carolina Domestic Violence Commission on May 16, 2014.



Gale McKoy Wilkins, Executive Director
(Sign & Date)